



PREVENTION PROGRESS

Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

Summer 2015

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Grantees Announced for Program Year 2015-2016

We have just completed our grant review process for the upcoming program year 2015-2016. Grant applications were due by May 8th and the Department received 135 completed applications requesting over \$6 million. Applications were read by staff, local reviewers from across the state and the ADCANP Board. The Board of Directors met on June 16th to make the final decision on funding and awarded \$2,166,132 to 99 programs. Award notifications were sent out June 19th. For a complete list of grantees, please visit our website at:

<http://ctf.alabama.gov/>

This program year brings many new changes to the Department and our grantees. All financial reporting will be submitted online and **all** supporting documentation will be maintained onsite and reviewed during the site visit. Also, this year we begin a new evaluation program with Auburn University. More information will be provided at the Mandatory Grantee Training

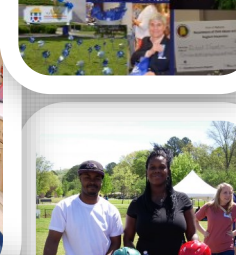
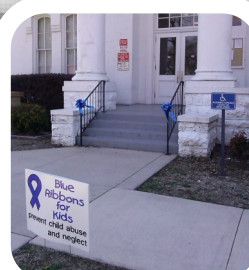
April—Child Abuse Prevention Month

This year, ADCANP Grantees hosted over 95 events across the State. These events ranged from Easter Egg Hunts and 5K Runs to Family Fun Days, all in an effort to raise awareness and funds to prevent child abuse and neglect. April activities included:

- ◇ Lighting the Capitol blue
- ◇ Lighting the downtown fountain blue
- ◇ Lighting RSA buildings around the state blue
- ◇ Decorating the downtown area with pinwheel gardens
- ◇ Releasing the Cost of Child Maltreatment to the Alabama Economy Cost Benefit Analysis
- ◇ Promoting April 10th as “Wear Blue Day”



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE STATE



Greetings:

This edition of our quarterly newsletter features our announcement of our grantees for 2015-2016. This funding cycle proved very challenging as we had over a four million dollar difference between the requested funding amounts and the figure our agency was allocated to award.

I want to commend our Board of Directors for the work they accomplished during the review process and the decisions warranted by the reduction in funding CTF had available to award for the upcoming program year. The Board Members worked diligently and collaboratively to grant awards in the most equitable and justified means available.

The challenge is before us to continue to educate and advocate for increased funding, both from the state and federal levels. We simply cannot do more with less. I applaud the work you, as our grantees, are doing each day to strengthen families and protect children from being abused or neglected.

Our work is crucial to developing communities where children and families can grow and thrive. We can invest in success or pay for failure. Let's come together to focus on investing in children and families.

Best regards,



Pictured left to right: Commissioner Jim Reddoch, Mary Ashcraft, Capt. Keith Jackson, Commissioner Nancy Buckner, Dr. Maranda Brown, Jamey Durham, Claire Williams, Cassandra Sharp, Tracy Plummer and Sallye Longshore.

**On April 22nd,
Governor Bentley
signed a Proclamation
designating April as
Child Abuse
Prevention Month.**

Legislative Update

As the 2015 legislative session comes to an end we are excited about our accomplishments that will impact 2016. We have received a \$75,000 increase to our appropriation in the Education Trust Fund. We worked closely with Representative Terri Collins, Senator Cam Ward and Senator Greg Albritton to pass HB197. HB197, commonly known as Erin's Law, was signed in to law by Governor Bentley on June 11, 2015. Erin's Law was named after Erin Merryn, who was a victim of sexual abuse as a child. Erin's Law has now passed in twenty-six of the fifty states. This law will require schools to educate on child sexual abuse based using an age appropriate curriculum chosen by the local school board. It creates a Governor's Task Force on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, which will make recommendations of evidence-based curriculums to the local school board. HB197 was considered as one of the "notable" bills that won approval from our legislature this year.

Although the session recently ended, our legislative work has not. We must continue to work hard at educating legislators on the value of our work. We are anxiously awaiting the Governor to declare a special session to work on mending the General Fund budget. Unfortunately, we were zeroed out in the General Fund Budget that the Governor vetoed. Currently, we are listed as a second priority conditional. This means that if a source of revenue is created to support the General Fund, we will receive a slight appropriation. However, our general fund conditional appropriation is much lower than we anticipated. We will continue to encourage our grantees to contact their legislators and educate them on the importance of our work. In order for us to continue funding programs across Alabama, we must work to get back in to the General Fund Budget. This is our most important task: receive ample funding to fully fund programs that will continue preventing child abuse in Alabama. Funding is essential to accomplish our goal of keeping Alabama children safe. We all know that it is difficult to do more with less so when the special session begins we will be contacting you to partner as a voice for the children of Alabama.



2015 REALTOR Day

Pictured left to right: Tracy Plummer,
Deputy Director and Claire Williams,
State Professional Trainee

Be on the lookout for ADCANP's indoor and outdoor billboards promoting our car tag across Alabama! We currently have twenty-three outdoor billboards located in Huntsville, Birmingham, Montgomery and Mobile. We also have thirty-nine indoor billboards located throughout Alabama.



ADCANP/Children's Trust Fund Releases *Cost of Child Maltreatment Report*

On April 8, 2015, the Children's Trust Fund hosted a press conference on the steps of the State House in Montgomery to release the recent findings of the cost of child maltreatment to Alabama's economy. This important work was conducted by a partnership with the College of Human Environmental Sciences and the Center for Business and Economic Research – Culverhouse College of Commerce at the University of Alabama.

The results of the report revealed that the cost of child maltreatment to the Alabama economy in 2013 (most recent year for data) is conservatively estimated to be **\$2.3 billion**. The staggering figure of \$2.3 billion is conservative because it is based on the child maltreatment victim cohort for 2013 and does not include the associated costs to families and communities.



Cost categories included factors such as low birth-weight, special education, juvenile delinquency, childhood mental health care, chronic illnesses and adult consequences including lost worker productivity as victims. The report clearly underscores the fact that **prevention** of child abuse and neglect in Alabama will reduce the cost on the state economy and contribute to economic growth. It also emphasizes that in order to accomplish our mission of preventing child maltreatment, we need additional resources. The report went on to suggest the serious underfunding of child maltreatment prevention in our state.

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Mary Ashcraft



Mary Ashcraft was appointed as Member At Large to the Board of Directors for the Department in January 2013 by Governor Robert Bentley. She served as representative for CTF Board Member, Dr. S. D. Palmer, in the local review process from the very beginning. Mrs. Ashcraft graduated from Auburn University in 1971 and received her MSW from the University of Alabama in 1985. She also attended Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1995. Mrs. Ashcraft began her social work career in Coosa County as a Social Worker and became Director in Coosa County in 1985. During her 39 years, she served as Interim Director as well as Administrator in Charge, in numerous counties. She retired as Director of Talladega County in September 2011. Ms. Ashcraft served as the past President of the Alabama Association of County Directors and is currently a Board member for Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement, Inc. and FIRST Family Service Centers.

On a more personal note, Mrs. Ashcraft has been married to Danny Ashcraft for 29 years and has one son, Robb Peoples. His wife's name is Nicole and they have two children, Gracie, 9, and Robert, 5. Mary is actively involved with them in Gymnastics, Swim team and Baseball. Her hobbies include home gardening, making jelly, needlepoint and she enjoys the beach. One last thing she wanted to share about herself, she is an avid Auburn fan . . . **War Eagle!**

Paul J. Butler

Paul Butler serves as the Department of Human Resources Designee on the Department's Board of Directors. Paul received his B.A. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1987. In 1988, he began his career in child welfare with the Jefferson County DHR. In 1993, he transferred to Walker County as Child Welfare Reform Specialist Caseworker. Paul completed his MSW in 1995, and upon graduation, joined the State DHR as Internal Consultant in the Offices of System of Care and Quality Assurance.



In 1998, Paul was appointed County Director of Crenshaw County. During his term, he also served concurrently as the Interim Director and/or Child Welfare Administrator of Pike, Barbour, Baldwin, Geneva, and Butler Counties at different points in time for each county office. In May 2005, Paul was promoted to District Administrative Specialist in the Office of Field Administration supervising the County Directors in the southeastern portion of the state as well as Jefferson County. Paul was named Director of Family Services for the State DHR in November 2005. In June of 2015, Paul was appointed, Deputy Commissioner for Field Administration for the State DHR and currently holds that position.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



**Alabama Partnership for Children
Parent Leadership Program's
First Year Graduates**

MANDATORY GRANTEE TRAINING

This year, Grantee Training will be held at the Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa, 4000 Grand Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama 35226. Grantees are required to send two staff from each program funded through ADCANP. Registration opened June 18th and will close July 2nd. No registration fee is required.



Grantee Training material must be picked up on August 3rd on the ground level of the Hotel's conference area between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. A special discounted group rate is being offered until Thursday, July 2nd. Please check out our website for direct links for registration and lodging information.

CONFERENCE UPDATE

APRIL

Child Abuse Prevention Summit: Blue Ribbon Event – Tuscaloosa, AL

Hosted by the School of Social Work and the College of Human Environmental Sciences, the Blue Ribbon Event at the University of Alabama featured Robert E. “Bud” Cramer as the keynote speaker. Sallye Longshore, ADCANP Executive Director, moderated a panel discussion on Child Maltreatment and Economic Implications. Panelists included: Neal Wade, Mayor Walt Maddox, Chris Newlin (NCAC), and Gail Piggott (APC). Questions and Answers session followed the thought-provoking panelist presentations.

Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities – Memphis, TN Regional Meeting

Sallye Longshore represented ADCANP at the regional meeting of the Commission as it convened in the South. This Commission was formed by Federal Law in 2013 and has been convening two-day meetings across the country gathering data, information, best practices, challenges, etc. regarding eliminating child fatalities due to abuse and neglect. The Commission is in the process of drafting a report to Congress and the President and is expected to release the report in Spring 2016.

MAY

Project LAUNCH: Summit – Tuscaloosa, AL

Sallye Longshore exhibited and participated in the Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children’s Health)

Dr. Bruce Perry, M.D., Ph.D., was the featured speaker at the Summit and outlined brilliantly the crucial needs of our very youngest children in terms of optimal brain development and how crucial the early years are to social and emotional health and well-being. ADCANP serves as a state partner with Project LAUNCH and is proud to be working with the LAUNCH staff and the Alabama Partnership for Children and the Dept. of Mental Health as the two entities take the lead with this vital work. ADCANP’s Cost of Child Maltreatment Executive Summary was included in the summit packet.

JUNE

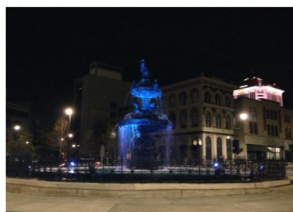
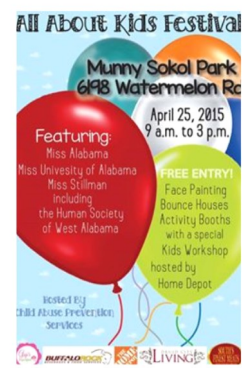
National Association for the Education of Young Children – Professional Development Institute

Sallye Longshore presented a session on connecting the work of child abuse and neglect prevention with building stronger communities.

Children’s Bureau/CBCAP – Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Jessica Jackson and Sallye Longshore represented the agency at the annual Community Based Child Abuse Prevention grantee meeting. Participants heard from representatives of the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities; Tribal and Migrant Prevention Programs; and using Data in the Real World. Other sessions included Collective Impact – work in Kansas; latest and greatest information from the Children’s Bureau; Family Advocacy programs, and Utilizing Cafes as a tool for Promoting the Protective Factors.

GRANTEES RAISE AWARENESS FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION



MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention secures resources to fund evidence-based community programs committed to the prevention of child maltreatment; we advocate for children and the strengthening of families.



Front Row (left to right): Karen Porter, Anita L. Archie, Nancy Sewell, Margaret Mitchell Brown and Maranda Brown
Back Row: Myron C. Gargis, Jamey Durham, Mary Ashcraft, Beth Chapman, James Slaughter and Clinton L. Johnson

Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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District Two

Anita L. Archie, **Board Chair**

District Three

Dr. Mitchell Brown

District Four

Myron C. Gargis

District Five

Senator Arthur Orr

District Six

Senator Cam Ward

District Seven

Nancy G. Sewell

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Dr. Tommy Bice

Designee—Karen Porter

Department of Mental Health

Commissioner Jim Perdue

Designee—Dr. Maranda Brown

Department of Human Resources

Commissioner Nancy Buckner

Designee—Paul Butler

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Dr. Don Williamson

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